

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 IOE-00 FEA-01
AID-05 CEQ-01 CIAE-00 ERDA-05 COME-00 DODE-00
EB-08 EPA-01 INR-07 L-03 NSF-01 NSC-05 NSAE-00
PM-05 USIA-06 OES-07 SS-15 SP-02 INT-05 ARA-10
EA-10 OIC-02 /146 W
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P R 091120Z SEP 77
FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
TO SECSTATE WAHSDC PRIORITY 1227
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS

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FROM US DELEGATION, UN DESERTIFICATION CONFERENCE

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: UN, OCON, SENV
SUBJ: UN DESERTIFICATION CONFERENCE: MIDDLE EAST RESOLUTION
(ISRAELI DOCUMENT ON NEGEV)

1. SUMMARY: ARAB RESOLUTION CONDEMNING ISRAELI DOCUMENT
ON NEGEV (TEXT NAIROBI 11531) WAS APPROVED DURING AFTERNOON
SESSION SEPT. 8 BY ROLL-CALL VOTE 45-17(US) WITH 14
ABSTENTIONS. RESOLUTION HAD SUPPORT OF ALL ARAB,
MOST EE SOCIALIST STATES AND MANY AFRICANS, INCLUDING
KENYA, HOST OF CONVERENCE. EC-9 VOTED AS BLOC AGAINST
TOGETHER WITH US AND CANADA. MOST LA'S ABSTAINED. IN
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FACT, RESOLUTION WAS SUPPORTED BY LESS THAN HALF OF
ACCREDITED DELEGATIONS (94). SOME RESOLUTION ON, OR
RELATED TO, MIDDLE EAST DISPUTE WAS PROBABLY INEVITABLE,
AND BEST THAT CAN BE SAID IS THAT THIS ONE WAS LESS
INFLAMMATORY THAN IT MIGHT HAVE BEEN. IN ANY CASE, IT
PRODUCED LESS CONFRONTATION AND TENSION THAN OCCUPIED
TERRITORIES RESOLUTION DID AT WATER CONFERENCE. AFTER

PASSAGE, WORK RESUMED ON DESERTIFICATION MATTERS.

1. RESOLUTION WAS SUPPORTED IN SPEECHES BY MAURITANIA, ALGERIA AND PAKISTAN. ALL COMPLAINED ABOUT ISRAELI DOCUMENT AND PROFESSED TO SEE POLITICAL INTENT IN MAP OF NEGEV WHICH APPEARED (TO THEM) TO SHOW WEST BANK OF JORDAN AS PART OF "JUDEA". IN ADDITION, IMPLIED CONNECTION ON DOCUMENT BETWEEN MUSLIM CONQUEST IN 7TH CENTURY AND SPREAD OF DESERTIFICATION WAS TERMED HIGHLY OFFENSIVE TO MUSLIMS. ISRAEL DEFENDED DOCUMENT AND OFFERED TO WITHDRAW OFFENSIVE PASSAGES. AUSTRALIA, SPEAKING IN BEHALF OF WESTERN (WEO) GROUP (EXCEPT FOR ONE STATE), DELIVERED FOLLOWING STATEMENT:

2. "A MAJORITY OF THE WEO GROUP REGRET THE PROPOSAL TO PASS A RESOLUTION OF THIS NATURE. IF IT IS PRESSED, THEY WILL BE UNABLE TO GO ALONG WITH A CONSENSUS AND HAVE TO ASK THAT THE MATTER BE PUT TO A VOTE. MEMBERS OF THE WEO GROUP HAVE NOTED THAT VIEWS ON THE PAPER WHICH IS THE SUBJECT OF THE RESOLUTION HAVE BEEN RECORDED ALREADY IN PARA 29 OF THE RAPPORTEUR GENERAL'S DRAFT REPORT ON THE GENERAL DEBATE, AND THEY CONSIDER THIS SHOULD SUFFICE. THEIR VOTES WILL REFLECT THEIR VIEWS THAT, IN THE WIDER INTERESTS OF OUR CONFERENCE, IT IS UNDESIRABLE THAT A PAPER SUCH AS THIS, SUBMITTED TO THE CONFERENCE AS A PART OF THE PREPARATORY DOCUMENTATION SOLICITED BY DECISIONS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND THE SECRETARIAT TO THIS CONFERENCE, SHOULD BE SINGLED OUT AND DENOUNCED IN A FORMAL RESOLUTION."

3. IN ROLL CALL VOTE FOLLOWING STATES VOTED AGAINST: ISRAEL, ITALY, NETHERLANDS, NORWAY, SWEDEN, SWITZERLAND, UK, USA, AUSTRALIA, AUSTRIA, BELGIUM, CANADA, DENMARK, FINLAND, FRANCE, FRG AND GREECE. FOLLOWING STATES ABSTAINED: JAPAN, MEXICO, PERU, PORTUGAL, ROMANIA, SPAIN, THAILAND, VENEZUELA, ARGENTINA, BRAZIL, CHILE, COLOMBIA, ECUADOR AND ETHIOPIA. NOTABLY ABSENT FOR VOTE WERE TURKEY, CAMEROON, IVORY COAST, ZAMBIA, SWAZILAND, BOTSWANA, GABON AND NEPAL. FOLLOWING VOTE, ISRAEL, ON POINT OF ORDER, ASKED CONFERENCE PRESIDENT IF MATTER HAD BEEN "SUBSTANTIVE" (REQUIRING TWO-THIRDS VOTE) OR "PROCEDURAL" ISRAELI INTERVENTION AT LEAST HIGHLIGHTED GENERAL LACK OF ENTHUSIASM IN MANY REGIONAL GROUPS FOR RESOLUTION, AND FACT THAT IT DID NOT OBTAIN TWO-THIRDS MAJORITY OF STATES PRESENT AND VOTING.

4. US DELEGATE (JOSEPH) MADE STATEMENT PER PARA 3, STATE 214207. CONFERENCE PRESIDENT EXPRESSED HOPE THIS

WOULD BE LAST TIME HE WOULD HAVE TO TAKE POLL OF DELEGATIONS, AND CONFERENCE RESUMED CONSIDERATION OF DESERTIFICATION MATTERS.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEETING VOTING RECORDS, RESOLUTIONS, SOIL EROSION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 09-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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Review Release Date: n/a
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UN DESERTIFICATION CONFERENCE: MIDDLE EAST RESOLUTION (ISRAELI DOCUMENT ON NEGEV)
TAGS: OCON, SENV, XF, IS, UN
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/1a4a9849-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
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